THE MERIDIAN
SWAVESEY

No. 205 December/January 2024

EDITORIAL

So here we are early in December! We have had such variable weather this year it is easy to think Xmas is still some way away!

However you have your Meridian to keep you up to date and informed of events over the Festive season and beyond into 2024.

Please remember to tell us well in advance so we can include your event/fundraiser etc; yes I know it is a pain to have to send information in so far ahead but we need time to put it all together and time the print run- plus we then have to sort it into delivery bundles for our wonderful team of deliverers - a job which Neil Jordison has taken on well done Jordi!

So the deadline for the Feb/March issue is **20th December**! Ok, ok close to Xmas but maybe you could find a few spare minutes in your day and send us your item and reward yourselves with a mince pie or two!

Editor

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Major Events List

This list is intended to avoid major events clashing on the same day. It will only work if we are advised of all such events, so please let us know as soon as you can confirm the details.

A form is available at the back of this magazine. We will list them in this section of the Magazine and also on our website at www.swaveseymeridian.org.uk

Tuesday 12 December Each day to:- Saturday 16 December	Over Players	Treasure Island at Over Community Centre
Saturday 16 December	Bethel Baptist	Market Street Carols - 6.00pm.
Saturday 16 December	St Andrews Church	Come and Carol - 7.30pm *With Swavesey Community Choir*
Saturday 23 December	Over Day Centre	Memory Café - 10am - 12noon - Over Day Centre
Friday 19 January Saturday 20 January Sunday 21 January	RADSOC	Sleeping Beauty at Swavesey Village College

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December		
Friday 1	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Friday 8	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Monday 11	Parish Council	Full Council Meeting
Tuesday 12 *Every day to-* Saturday 16	Over Players	Treasure Island Over Community Centre
Friday 15	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Saturday 16	Bethel Baptist	Market Street Carols - 6.00pm.
Saturday 16	St Andrews Church	Come and Carol - 7.30pm - With Swavesey Community Choir
Friday 22	Refuse Collection	Green & Blue Bins
Saturday 23	Over Day Centre	Memory Café - 10am - 12noon - Over Day Centre - Inviting all people with memory loss
Saturday 30	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection (Note Saturday)
January		
Friday 5	Refuse Collection	Blue Bin only
Friday 12	Refuse Collection	Black Bin Collection
Friday 19 Saturday 20 Sunday 21	RADSOC	Sleeping Beauty at Swavesey Village College

CLUB REPORTS

Swavesey WI News

2023

December 11th……..Christmas Celebration

2024

January 8th.	Pre-loved Auction.
February 12th	'One of our Own'—A World War 2 Story by David Duker.
March 11th	AGM followed by a talk by Carole Pook" A Woman of No Importance".

Besides monthly meetings, Swavesey WI has other interest groups. They are:-

- Eating Out Group/Book Group and our newly formed Craft Group, they all meet once a month.
- Plus we have 2 Walking Groups that meet in Market Street on Mondays and Fridays. So there is no excuse for anyone to say that our WI is not a busy one!

We strive to provide varied interests for our members and we hope to attract new members with our programme of events!

In September we held a very successful Cake Stall at the Village Market in Market Street. We were supporting E.A.C.H. (East Anglian Children's Hospice)and from our proceeds we were able to send this charity £215. Thank you to everyone who supported us on the day. Village support is much appreciated.

If you would like to join us or find out more about what we get up to, please contact the following;-

Margaret Guest 01954 202757

Deirdre Burgess 01954 230897

On the 4th Thursday of the month Swavesey WI hosts the Compass Cafe.. Always a popular and very friendly morning held at the Bethel Chapel.
Do pop along and meet us!

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MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE FROM SWAVESEY CAMERA CLUB

We have had an excellent first term: many useful and interesting talks, and well-subscribed competitions. Soon it will be time for our Christmas and New Year break. Our term finishes with our Annual Colour Print Competition on 7th December, named after Jo Sipos, and finally the President's Evening on December 14th. This is our Christmas party, quizzes and games, wine and festive food too, so something for everyone.

We start again in early January, with an instructive talk from Colin Hulley, 'Print to Perfection' on the 4th, and just a week later another on the 11th, from James Arben, 'Shooting Landscapes - Whatever the weather, behind the portrait'.

Only one competition this month, for which there is an advisory evening on zoom, 9th January for the actual competition on the 25th, our next set subject 'Lines and Patterns'. It is always entertaining to see how our members respond to the challenge.

The subject of the evening of the 18th has not been announced yet, so once again keep your eye on our website, and here is early notice of another Members' night on 1st February, when often we find out the topics on the night.

Do come along and join us any evening, but please check our website each time that it is an actual, not a zoom meeting.

Mo Hadfield
Swavesey Camera Club
www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk

Living Crib at Rampton Church 2013
by Simon Shore

Jottings from the Hale Road Allotments.

Well that's another growing season over on the allotments. By the time this is read we will be into the cold of winter. However not everything will be dormant on the plots, as seeds that were planted in early spring should now be providing lots of lovely roast parsnips. There should also be brussels sprouts ready for the Christmas table.

Having an allotment is not purely about growing fruit and vegetables though. We are a community of likeminded people who like a chat, and sometimes do more chatting on site than cultivating! There is always another plot holder willing to give new people advice if they would like it.

We organise social fund raising events, and an annual produce sale. This allows other people in the village the chance to try the freshest of fruit and vegetables.

Of course there is some physical work involved in having an allotment. It does take a bit of time to keep it nice, but it keeps us fit and is cheaper than a gym membership!

We do have a waiting list for both full and half plots but the lists are not ridiculously long and plots come up all the time. So, if you live in the village and are interested in joining our community then please don't hesitate to give me a ring. (details in the club section of the magazine)

Val Sage (Chair of the Hale Road Allotment Association)

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Swavesey Spartans FC

The Club

The new season has started with a bang with all teams enjoying the relatively warm weather deep into October and enjoying playing on the new Artificial Grass Pitch at Swavesey Village College. Some of our teams are still looking/have space for new players to add to the 204 already registered. If you are interested, please contact Neil Jordison, Club Secretary, at Swavesey.secretary@gmail.com who can advise on capacity which is currently limited.

How we operate

We have boys and girl's teams entered in local leagues and we have players who only want to train. Fees start at £95 (training only) for the season and rise to £140 for players involved in competitive matches. The fee's cover training costs, club insurance and mandatory activities that the club needs to comply with including ensuring that we remain FA Chartered Compliant. For the first time in the Club's history, all teams will be able to train all season on the new artificial grass pitches at Swavesey Village College (previously it was only winter that the club trained on this surface). We will also continue to host our annual celebration Spartans Day. At this end of season event, each player receives a momento, and the league teams have annual awards presented. Each team plays around 20 league games and most enter the annual cup competition for their age group. During the summer players and parents take a break, some put on their whites and play cricket, and some enter various small, sided tournaments representing Spartans that are held across our region.

This season sees the Spartans form an Under 7's (school Year 2) squad (boys and girls) with a view to taking their first steps into in the mini league in the 2024/2025 season. The Under 7's team train on Tuesday evenings from 1800 till 1900.Current FA regulations mean that we cannot allow anybody to join the club until they have had their 6th birthday.

At the other end of the Spartans lifecycle our Under 17- and 18-year-olds are now graduating to open age football clubs based in the village. Spartans provide that opportunity with the affiliated ladies team playing on Sundays in the Cambridgeshire League. Currently 4 of our girls Under 17s turn out for the ladies' team on a regular basis. We also have 4 of our boys who feature on Saturday afternoon for Swavesey Institute FC.

Swavesey Institute FC

Swavesey Institute has been established a lot longer than Spartans, and field 2 men's teams. Institute were the most successful local club throughout the 1960s. They were always in the higher reaches of the Cambridgeshire leagues but fell away in the 1990s. They suffered a revival to reach the Cambridgeshire senior leagues again just after the Millenium. Another dip and recovery have occurred recently to see them back in Senior B, with the Reserves 4 tiers below them for 2023/24.

Get in Touch

Contact details for both clubs are in the Club Information section of this Meridian.

Swavesey & District History Society

September meeting. About 40 attended the first talk of the 2023/24 season when Peter Daldorph from Girton took us back to the 1650s to speak of “The Scottish Soldiers and the Ouse Washes”. Heritage Lottery-funded research allowed him to thoroughly review the minutes of the 805 meetings of the Company of Adventurers held from 1649 to 1656. Meetings were in London, usually at Temple Bar, and the full documents are now stored at the Cambridgeshire Archive in Ely.

After Charles I's execution, Scotland recognised Charles II as king of all of Britain in 1650 and began recruiting an army to support him. The English were not having this and sent the New Model Army into Scotland. Despite having fewer men, Cromwell’s tactics won the battle of Dunbar in September 1650 and at least 6,000 Scots were taken prisoner from an army of 12,500 or fewer. In the following year the Scottish army, under Charles II, marched south in an unsuccessful attempt to rally Royalist supporters in England. They got as far as Worcester but in September 1651 they were defeated again by Cromwell and a further 10,000 prisoners taken.

The Scottish prisoners were marched down to London, with many dying on the way, and put into prison in terrible conditions. The first Bedford river from Earith to Denver, completed in the early 1630s, had failed so after the Civil War ended work started on the second Bedford river. Some of the prisoners were sent to the coal mines, some to work on plantations in the Caribbean and others sent to drain the fens. 166 arrived at Earith on 15 Oct 1651. In all about 500 Scottish prisoners were part of a total workforce of over 10,000 men. Since they were prisoners the Company of Adventurers paid them nothing and working conditions were appalling. Many tried to escape but this was difficult because the few roads were well guarded, locals were required to report it if they saw a prisoner and risking moving through the vegetation and swamps was very dangerous. Within a year after they arrived most of the drainage work was completed so the prisoners were simply set free. Whereas many made their way back to Scotland, it is also possible that many stayed within the area.

October meeting. Filth and disease is how Mike Muncaster of Kimbolton began his talk to 40 members on “The Nineteenth Century Explosion of Cholera”. Between 1831 and 1866, four Asiatic cholera outbreaks struck England, as part of pandemics that affected the whole world. Cholera causes people to be convulsed with pain, intense vomiting and uncontrollable watery diarrhoea. The first incidence in England occurred in Sunderland in October 1831 when a ship carrying infected sailors docked at the port. Usually about 50% of those infected die in agony within a matter of hours and 52,000 died by the end of 1832. Doctors who had worked for the army in India soon recognised it as Asiatic cholera but there was no known cure. A second outbreak followed in 1848-9 and caused the death of precisely 53,293 people although this is suspected of being a significant underestimate.

The population of England doubled between 1801 and 1851 but the population of large cities such as Liverpool, Manchester and Birmingham increased four times yet there was no corresponding improvement in water supply or sewage management. The Thames and other city rivers supplied both drinking water and effluent disposal and there was no refuse collection. Sanitary conditions in crowded, poor areas of cities were squalid. Human waste piled up in courtyards and overflowed from basement cesspits into the gutters and waterways. The 1848 Public Health Act established a Central Board of Health but this had limited powers.

The third outbreak occurred in 1854 and in Norwich the river Wensum, which supplied drinking water to the city, was found to be heavily polluted with sewage by a sanitary inspector from the local Board of Health. At the same time, Wisbech was recorded as one of the least healthy places in England with 140 cases of cholera, of which 80 died.

A number of causes of cholera were suggested initially such as poisonous air, drunkenness and indecent behaviour. Then in 1854, London physician John Snow created a map depicting where cases of cholera occurred in Soho, a poor district of central London with unhygienic housing and living conditions and found them to be clustered around a water pump on Broad Street. He identified a baby at the upper end of the street as the first case and pinpointed how the family's cesspool had leaked into Broad Street well. This discovery confirmed Snow's research, helping to prove that cholera is waterborne, not airborne.

A comfortably-off lady in Hampstead had her drinking water regularly imported in barrels from the river Thames because she preferred the taste. She died of cholera.

Next meetings:-

- 16 January. National treasures. Caroline Shenton.
- 13 February. Bastardy, bigamy, brawling and brothels. Gill Shapland.
- 19 March. The great stink. Don Chiswell.

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MISCELLANY

'Twas The Night Before Christmas

'Twas the night before Christmas, but there's no-one about
No food has yet been prepared, not even one sprout
The dog gnawing at the turkey on the mat by the door
The cat is dragging a string of sausages across the floor
The pudding is on the table, looking all sad and forlorn
The cat has had a go at that too and left the cloth all torn
The carollers have been tonight and sung a couple of verses
Nobody home; kicked the gnome; a few unseasonal curses
The Christmas tree, once so beautiful, so festive and so tall
Now all its baubles smashed, is lying prostrate in the hall
The presents beneath it, so lovingly tagged and wrapped
Lie shredded in a stinking heap where the cat has crapped
Christmas lights around the window, all twinkling and bright
Now wrapped round the chair legs after putting up a fight
A proper family Christmas with eight around the table
'Leave it all to me' said Grandad, I am so happy to be able
To peel the veg, stuff the turkey and give you all some time
Go down the pub, have a laugh, just leave me here, I'm fine
I'll have it done in no time at all, you won't believe your eyes
I'll make the sausage rolls from scratch, it'll be a great surprise
It started off so well, he had a plan, he poured a glass of lager
Just a couple more, oh deary me, he's forgot to light the Aga
It's now half past seven, so much to do but he's feeling rather dozy
I'll have forty winks, still loads of time; this bed's so warm and cosy
Hearing aid out, a scratch, a fart, he settled down to dream
So deep the sleep, in land of nod, he didn't hear the scream!

Sue B, Whitton Close

The Original version of this poem can be found at:-
www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/twas-the-night-before-christmas-by-clement-clarke-moore Ed

Parish Council & Sustainability Hub Biodiversity Projects

During 2023 we have worked together on projects to increase biodiversity and bring forward sustainability events and ideas. Some very visible with lots of comments and thanks such as the colourful wildflowers alongside Swan Pond this summer (last Meridian cover photo) and the many visitors to the April Sustainability event.

We wanted to update you on the work you may not have seen and to note that these are funded mainly by grants to the Parish Council (PC) or Sustainability Hub, or from developer S106 funding, so minimal impact on residents' Precept funding.

Sustainability Hub

- Supported by PC and SCDC grants three events at the Memorial Hall have been held with over 100 people at the April event. All included a Repair Café.
- Updates in the Meridian Magazine to help you to fight climate change and make improvements to the way you live and look after our planet.
- Raised planting beds at the Primary School funded by the Hub. Reception children learning about growing plants.
- Around a dozen talks given to other groups, including SCDC grants committee; Cambridge Carbon Footprint workshops; local council Clerks meeting.

Wildflowers & Bulbs

- Whitton Close, managed by residents and Sustainability Hub. Big success which will be expanded in 2024. SCDC support as it is their land.
- Swan Pond. Huge success and very visible with the wildflowers.
- Wildlife Patch, Moat Way. Set up by the Sustainability Hub. Residents donated and planted lots of plants and helped look after it. Includes a hedgehog box.
- Planting will expand to other village areas. Care will be taken to ensure that areas remain well tended. Spring bulbs also being considered.

Carters Way/Priory Ave Community Garden

- Raised beds now built and filling up with donated plants.
- Next phase will be managing weed growth and improving the north end of the area. Also painting children's games on the tarmac and enhancing brick walls with painted murals.

Tree Planting

- SCDC ZCC project for free trees in Parishes. PC will submit a bid for trees for various areas this autumn.

SCDC Projects

- 22 locations within Housing sites to be enhanced for nature. One is in Swavesey and we will work with SCDC on proposals.
- Local Case Studies – working with SCDC on a case study of Swavesey projects and how the Sustainability Hub promotes work being carried out here.

Hedgehog Highway

- PC purchased hedgehog highway surrounds, to be distributed via the November Sustainability Hub event.

Parish Open Spaces

- Existing areas constantly being improved by the PC, Sustainability Hub and residents.
- Community Orchard – new access from Station Rd and a wildlife pond created with grant funding as habitat for great crested newts.
- Constable's Rood Wildlife Garden – flowering cherry tree planted this year in memory of Queen Elisabeth II.

We are hugely encouraged by the comments we have received so far, thank you. More information can be found at:-
https://www.swavesey.org.uk/community/environmental-projects/

Sustainability Advice

Keeping warm during winter - hedgehogs, birds and us!

We are all making changes to how we keep ourselves warm during the winter months. One really helpful approach to locate where your home is losing heat is by using a thermal imaging camera: everywhere precious warm air is escaping your building will show up vividly. Search for Cambridge Carbon Footprint thermal imaging camera to borrow one free of charge. You will also need to register for a 1.5hr training session so you are able to use it.

For those of us who made or received bug hotels and bird feeders from the Swavesey Christmas sustainability event, now is a good time to put them to use in your gardens - birds will be looking for scarce food sources and love the high-calorie fat and seed mix, and insects needing a safe place to hibernate. And for anyone who took home a hedgehog highway gateway, please do send us pictures of it installed and any visiting hedgehogs so we can update our nature map of the village (rvollerthun@gmail.co.uk) - perhaps you've even got a hibernating hedgehog if you've any hospitable areas!

Memories - Warren Wright

Once I had got my drum-kit, courtesy of the late Mod Godfrey, I saved almost all the payments I had received for my part-time Saturday jobs at both what was then Freestones bakery and later Alsop's grocery shop on the corner of Wallmans lane - now the B & B. In addition I put most of my weekly pocket money into the pot and eventually I had enough to go and buy a classic Grundig tape recorder, which I put to good use by recording much of the 50's & 60's music which was mainly played on Radio Luxembourg and Radio Caroline - one of the several pirate stations broadcasting prior to the BBC originating radio 1 & radio 2 stations. I seem to remember that the price of a single 45 vinyl disc being 6 shillings & 8 pence at the time, about 32p these days! All this equipment enabled me to play along to the tracks whilst on the drums in the first floor attic of the house whilst I was looking for another band who were looking for a drummer.

Back at school in the first year of my 6th form education, I soon realised that the expectation would be that I would go on to finish my A levels and then seek a place in one of our local colleges before getting anywhere near a job, by which time who knows?. One of my teachers obviously realised that my mind was elsewhere and took me aside to ask me what my true ambition was, needless to say I replied that it was to be in the music business though of course I wasn't in a position then of earning a living. Somehow he recommended me to have an interview which was successful and I became a trainee underwriter at the Prudential but earning a living AND of course i was suddenly able to arrange insurance for the group's van & equipment a big issue at the time!

Actually I quite enjoyed my time at the Pru & went on a course for a week to their HQ in Holborn, London, during which we were asked to remove our shoes before being taken into the "computer room" in the mid 60's!! The computer was about the size of a 20 foot container with hundreds of small lights flashing & was basically operated on a card system, just a bit bigger than today's lap-top or smart phone!

The music scene in Cambridge was pretty vibrant at that time in the early 60's, and it wasn't long before I was introduced to another collection of guys of my age group who all had similar ambitions. All the lads lived in Cambridge but I had my train season ticket until I left school after which it wasn't long before I was driving - an old "sit up & beg" Ford Popular. George, the guitarist in the new gang, lived with his mother at the bottom of Round Church St. in the centre of town & his mother had a connection with the first floor hall opposite the Round Church. This was very handy as we could get it for practice when it wasn't booked and also had small storage

space available if necessary. Just at the back of the Church & opposite the Hall were the Union Cellars which had many a live group in for the students - remember seeing the original "Amen Corner" play there before they made the big-time. As well as playing guitar George had the idea of creating a basic stage lighting system we could use when performing, which would be in addition to the lights that most of the local venues provided. So it wasn't long before we had an old pair of PA speaker columns with the internal speakers replaced by 4 lights in each column and in addition another 6 floor wedges, all the lights having some heavy duty theatrical plastic coloured sheets inside. The main control unit was in fact a variable speed record turntable with wire contacts on the metal turntable edge in a safe secure cabinet. Smoke machines were very rare in those days but George had the idea of utilising one of the old ceramic backed portable electric heaters which could be laid on its back with a fan placed behind it, and we were able to go down to a supply shop almost next door to the old Civic theatre in the city centre and purchase some white powder to lay on the fire bars and whoopee we had an-all-be it very primitive but effective smoke machine for the grand finale at the end of our performance. The band by this time was going under the name of " Like Mad " which I guess reflected the members, music & lighting!

Selwyn's Easy "Pop Groups Over the Decades" Quiz. Part 2

Solve the mainly cryptic clues below , e.g., Liverpudlian insects 3, 7 The Beatles - we said it was easy! Note, where a group is called "The Something", sometimes "The" is dropped.

Single men	3,9
e.g. granite flowers	5,5
Sticking plaster	4,3
Rhythms on northern river	3,11
Seems that this big cat can't hear	3,7
Feeling down	4
Ferric lady	4,6
Found a remedy	3,4
Those people	4
Which people?	3,3
You will find the answers to this puzzle on page 25	

It Will Probably Be Cloudy…

A guide to the night sky over Swavesey during December and January.

On 4th December, the planet Mercury reaches greatest eastern elongation from the Sun. This is a good time to view Mercury as the planet appears at its farthest distance from the Sun in the evening sky. Look for the planet low in the western sky just after sunset.

The Geminids, with a possible hourly rate of 150 meteors per hour, are one of the best meteor shower displays you can see all year. Reaching maximum on 14-15 December, the Moon will be a waxing crescent on the peak, making viewing conditions favourable. As with most showers your best chance to see meteors is in the early hours of the morning around the peak, though a good number should be seen any time from a few hours after sunset.Fill your view with the sky and wait for the lights to appear. And, given this is a midwinter wonder, don't forget to wrap up warm!

The Ursids meteor shower is active annually between 17th December and 25th December and peaks on the night of 21st December with around 10 meteors per hour.

The winter solstice, the shortest day of the year in the northern hemisphere, occurs on 22nd December.

This full moon on 27th December was known by early Native American tribes as the Cold Moon because this is the time of year when the cold winter air settles in and the nights become long and dark. This moon has also been known as the Long Nights Moon and the Moon Before Yule.

The first major meteor shower of 2024, the Quadrantids are usually active between the end of December and the second week of January, and peak around 3rd and 4th January. Unlike other meteor showers that tend to stay at their peak for about two days, the peak period of the Quadrantids only lasts a few hours with around 40 meteors per hour. The waning gibbous moon will block out some of the fainter meteors, but if you are patient this could still be a good show.

On 12th January, the planet Mercury reaches greatest western elongation from the Sun. It will be at its highest point above the horizon in the morning sky. Look for the planet low in the eastern sky just before sunrise.

The first Full Moon of the year on 25th January is known as the Wolf Moon in many northern cultures, named after the howling of hungry wolves lamenting the scarcity of food in midwinter. Other names for this month's full moon include old moon and ice moon.

Things to look out for in 2024 are possible naked-eye visible comets in April and October and notable spaceflight events during the year 2024 including:

NASA plans to launch the Artemis 2 mission on the Space Launch System, sending astronauts around the Moon on a ten-day lunar flyby.

NASA also plans to launch the Europa Clipper in October, which will study the Jovian moon Europa while in orbit around Jupiter.

China plans to send Chang'e 6 in May, which will conduct the first lunar sample return from the far side of the Moon.

Japan plans to launch the Martian Moons Exploration (MMX) spacecraft to collect and bring back samples from one of the moons of Mars, Phobos.

The maiden flight of Blue Origin's New Glenn heavy-lift orbital launch vehicle is planned for August 2024.

Chris & Helen Nunn

People I Have Met

'In its hey-day the East of England Showground with its access to the A1 was a premier agricultural show : the ground now to be sold. During those busy years and when I was a police dog handler we did rather elaborate and entertaining dog displays in the main arena. A local sheep dog handler also used two of our dogs which we had sat separately by themselves and which he drove sheep round with his dog as part of his driving display. It looked impressive.

Some may recall Barbara Windsor, the 4' 10'' bubbly blond who appeared in the Carry on Films and much later on TV in EastEnders. One year Miss Windsor was hired to open the Peterborough Show and mingle a little. Me and a colleague were invited by the show secretary to his office for tea – Miss Winsor was also there. Perhaps, because of some of her associations at that time she chose not look at us in our uniforms, let alone speak. We found it all rather amusing.

At the completely other end of the scale I did sit on a committee with Baroness Warnock. Mary Warnock had been Mistress of Girton College and had realised that some children needed special attention and teaching. From her work came the understanding of Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)

I had developed a keen interest in SpLD / Dyslexia and sat with Mary Warnock and others on a British Dyslexia Association (BDA) Committee. I embarked on a 13 year campaign, locally and nationally, to get all dyslexic children identified during their early days at school. This is essential. As a result of my work I did persuade the Education Secretary of the day to introduce new legislation. Whilst this raised some awareness, it was not specific enough to be really effective. I quickly discovered the weakness of politicians, both at county and national level.

All of that was not helped when the Church of England Education Board failed to acknowledge and act upon their responsibilities towards that large group of children. They also chose to ignore the teachings of the Scriptures when I quoted it to them. *But Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to ME and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven'.*

Finally, ponder on this if you will. Might the members of a registered charity relying on public funding and providing several well paid jobs, then work to solve the issues and make themselves redundant ? Not in my experience.

If any reader has a specific interest in dyslexia and would care to have my BDA, and others, approved Report, please ask the Ed for my email address.

David Carrington

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An update from Fen Drayton Lakes

Whilst out working around the reserve, it's quite common for curious visitors to approach us with questions about how we manage this expansive site and how many staff members are responsible for its upkeep. Their reactions are typically a mix of surprise and appreciation when we say that only two of us are entrusted with the on-site care and maintenance of this sprawling, almost 400-hectare reserve, complete with an extensive network of around 16 kilometres of pathways. It's at this point that we can take the opportunity to extol our unsung heroes without whom we would not be able to cope – our extraordinary team of volunteers, upon whose dedication we heavily rely.

These outstanding individuals play a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth functioning of our reserve. Whether they're walking the trails to pick up litter, inspecting infrastructure for signs of wear and tear, running events to engage the community, extending warm welcomes to visitors in the car park, conducting breeding bird and biodiversity surveys, or undertaking crucial habitat and infrastructure management work, it's safe to say there is virtually no aspect of our operations in which volunteers aren't deeply embedded and we simply could not manage without them. To date this year, from January through to early September, we have logged almost 2000 volunteer hours across the various roles.

Our volunteer force is as diverse as the reserve habitats they help protect. Spanning a wide range of ages, from enthusiastic teenagers to experienced

Volunteers undertaking autumn habitat management work on Elney Lake – Henry Cook

octogenarians, they represent an eclectic mix of backgrounds and interests. Some among them are keen birders and nature enthusiasts, while others simply relish the opportunity to spend a few hours outdoors either alone or with other like-minded people. What unites them all is a passion for our reserve, a shared eagerness to be actively involved and an invaluable commitment to its sustained management and success.

If you would like more information about the volunteering opportunities here at Fen Drayton Lakes, please get in touch.

Wednesday Wander

Ever thought you'd like to know more about the reserve and its wildlife? Volunteer-led guided walks take place once a month, usually on the second Wednesday. To see further details and book, please visit:

Website: events.rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes

Email: fendraytonlakes@rspb.org.uk

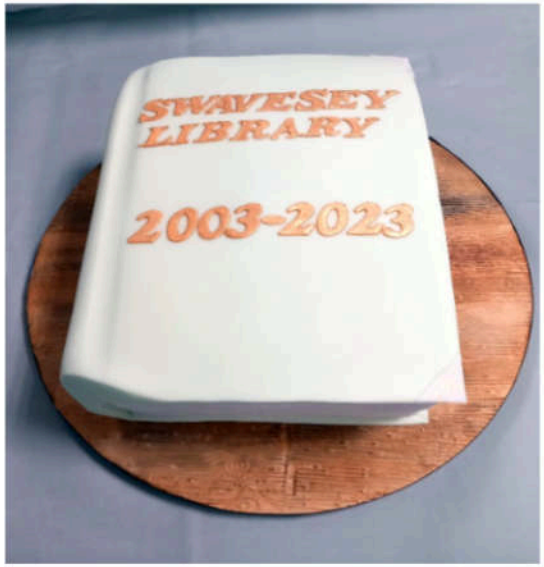
Phone: 01954 233260

Visit **rspb.org.uk/fendraytonlakes**

The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) is a registered charity: England and Wales no. 207076, Scotland no. SC037654

SWAVESEY LIBRARY

Your local voluntary run community library.



Celebrated its 20th anniversary in October. With two functions, firstly a formal evening,

Where the chairman welcomed those who had a hand in setting up and opening our volunteer run community library, volunteers past and present and regular customers, with a short speech on the history of Swavesey library.

Did you know that there has been a library in Swavesey since 1922? That it's been on the Swavesey Village College site for the last 65 years? That the Community Library arose 20 years ago after the County Council closed their library, and so a band of concerned residents, supported by the Parish Council, got together to open our current volunteer run community library?

The Chairman ended his speech by giving thanks to everyone who had supported the library over the past 20 years.

Verity Ladds, our first library chairman and ex Parish Council chairman, who was instrumental in setting up our community library, cut a celebration cake iced in the shape of a book. Then everyone enjoyed a slice together with a glass of wine and nibbles to round off a very enjoyable evening celebration.

Our second function, was a children's 20th birthday Party

Around 70 parents and children enjoyed a morning of activities, a story time, icing cakes, lots of sticking and colouring topped up with plenty of refreshments.

Watch out for our Christmas themed children's activity morning in December.

Swavesey Community Library is open: -

Tuesday afternoons 3.30pm -5.30pm,

Wednesday evenings 5pm – 7pm and

Saturday mornings 10 – 12 noon.

Swavesey library can be found in the Old Entrance Hall, Swavesey Village College. Its entrance is at the righthand side of the Gibraltar Lane car park. Just follow the library signs.

For further information; -

See our web site www.swavesey.org.uk/community/swavesey-your-library/

Facebook at Swavesey Village Life or contact

Richard at Richard94.hart@virgin.net / 01954 202707 or

Doug at Doughuntuk@yahoo.co.uk / 01954 232478.

Swavesey 100 Years ago (Dec 1923 & Jan 1924)
From the Cambridge Chronicle

POSTAL ALTERATION. 7th Dec. 1923
Commencing on Sunday next, the 9th inst., Swavesey Post Office will be open on Sundays, from 9 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., instead of from 8.30 to 10 a.m., as hitherto.

RESULT OF DRAW. 28th Dec. 1923
The second "draw" in aid of the War Memorial Hall Fund took place on Saturday. The prize-winners were: Mr. Frank Hayward, Elsenham, 977 (suit of clothes), Mr. Philip Franklin, Cottenham, 876 (tea service), Mrs. L. Saintey, Longstanton, 1,218 (dinner service), Mrs. Chaddock, Swavesey, 16 (lamp). Miss G. Allgood, Hardwicke, 813 (box of cigars), Mrs. T. Metcalfe, Swavesey, 922 (cigarettes).

CAROLS. 28th Dec. 1923
Between 30 and 40 members of the Swavesey Choral Society sang carols in the village streets on Saturday night. Starting from Boxworth End at 8 o'clock, they did not reach the neighbourhood of the railway station until midnight, being sustained on their way by grateful cups of hot coffee, thoughtfully provided by Mr. and Mrs. Jabez Day, when they visited Wallman's-lane. Their excellent singing was greatly appreciated, and the collection on behalf of Addenbrooke's Hospital, begun on Saturday night and finished on Monday, met with a generous response, the contributions amounting to £7 15s.

ADVERT. 4th Jan. 1924
LOST, on Saturday, 22nd December, between Coton, Madingley, Dry Drayton and Swavesey, a Spare Wheel from Ford Motor Van; finder rewarded. – Apply, Spolton, Butcher, Swavesey.

CHRISTMAS DINNERS. 4th Jan. 1924
The procession of dinners to and from the bakehouses, always a feature in the streets of the village on Sundays and festivals, was especially noticeable on Christmas Day, for on that festive occasion not only was the procession unusually large, but a motor car was employed for the conveyance of the dinner of one family.

NATIONAL SCHOOL. 11th Jan. 1924
The National School, which has been closed since November 20th, in consequence of illness amongst the children, was re-opened on Tuesday. During the interval the building has been disinfected, repainted and the walls distempered.

FOUND. 18th Jan. 1924
The spare wheel of a motor van, which was lost by Mr. Walter Spolton, Swavesey, between Dry Drayton and Swavesey on December 22nd, has been found, through the agency of an advertisement in the "Independent Press." It was picked up on the Huntingdon-road, near the New Inn (Traveller's Rest), and was taken on to St. Ives, whence it was recovered.

ANCIENT SKATES. 18th Jan. 1924
During the frost in November, Master Alfred Hawkes, aged 15, grandson of Mr. W. H. Key, Swavesey spent some happy hours with companions on a small stretch of ice on a partly-flooded field, between the railway and the river, using a pair of skates on which his great grandfather, who lived at Earith, Hunts., had travelled very many

miles, visiting Welney, Huntingdon and other places, and on which upwards of 80 years, ago he had played "bandy" (hockey) on Mere Fen, Swavesey. The old gentleman used to say that Swavesey men were very rough in the play. The skates are still in excellent condition, though the varnish, or polish, has long since disappeared from the wooden portion. Last week's thaw was a great disappointment to local, and doubtless to many other skaters, who in past years have been in habit of visiting Mere Fen.

RAILWAY TROUBLE. 25th Jan. 1924
The interruption in the railway service caused inconvenience in the Swavesey district, as elsewhere. On Monday many regular attendants at St. Ives Market accustomed to go by train had to travel to and fro by road, and those who depended on the railway spent weary hours at St. Ives Station waiting for a return train. Milk has been despatched by rail as usual every morning, but on Monday evening some 25 to 30 cans of milk had to remain at the station all night, as no train was available for their conveyance. On other evenings the milk was got away much about the usual time. Daily newspapers have reached Swavesey by road. On Monday not many were missing, and on Tuesday practically the whole of the usual supply came to hand. The reduced size of some of the journals, however, led to amusing inquiries, such as "Where's the rest of my paper? You've only given me half."

FLOODS. 25th Jan. 1924
Much land around Swavesey is flooded, and in places water is running over the banks.

HISTON AND DISTRICT LEAGUE. 25th Jan. 1924
SWAVESEY RESERVES v. RAMPTON
Swavesey 2, Rampton 1.
Played at Swavesey on Saturday. Part of the field was under water, and the rest was saturated, making anything like football almost impossible. The game was played as well as possible, under the conditions, with the above result.

Chris Richardson

Answers to Selwyn's "Pop Groups Over the Decades" on page 17

Single men	3,9	The Bachelors
e.g. granite flowers	5,5	Stone Roses
Sticking plaster	4,3	Band Aid
Rhythms on northern river	3,11	The Merseybeats
Seems that this big cat can't hear	3,7	Def Leppard
Feeling down	4	Blue
Ferric lady	4,6	Iron Maiden
Found a remedy	3,4	The Cure
Those people	4	Them
Which people?	3,3	The Who

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Compass Café

"Encompasses the community"

All are welcome on Thursdays
10:30am until 12 noon
At Bethel Baptist Church

Our cakes are home-made,
our coffee and sugar are Fairtrade,
our tea bags are plastic-free.

Priced to be affordable:
Tea/coffee/hot chocolate £1 per mug
and Cakes £1.50 per large slice
Squash is free

Please use the side door to enter, the far side door has a ramp for wheelchair users and pushchairs, and there is a carpet and toys for pre-school age customers.

Compass Café is run as a community event, a place to meet and chat. Your hosts are a group from one of:
Bethel Baptist Church, Girlguiding Units in Swavesey, Swavesey Primary School PTA, St Andrew's Church and Swavesey Women's Institute.

When there is a 5th Thursday in the month other groups are invited to run the café to fundraise.
Please get in touch with Sue Ellington if you would like to know more.
sue.ellington@virgin.net or phone 01954 202923

Swavesey Community Orchard

Our Community Orchard is just over 4 years old. In November 2019, we kicked off by planting the first 40 heritage apples, pears, plums, damsons, gage and quince. In the following 2 years more trees, daffodils, benches and a picnic table were added, and in the past 12 months the pond has been established and the new safer entrance and ramp constructed.

The development of the pond was sponsored by The Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG) as part of their objective to increase habitats for the Great Crested Newt. Helen Parish and Ecology Link Ltd designed and supported the planning application, which was prepared by Linda Miller.

Photo left shows Jilly McNaughton of FWAG opening the pond and describing the Great Crested Newt project at a recent open afternoon.

Saturday September 23rd was the date for our first fruit tasting and, although there were few apples as yet in the orchard, we supplemented them with apples from elsewhere in the village. The fruit juice pressed from these apples had a fabulous taste, belying the quality of fruit used!

We also took the opportunity of a captive audience to hold our AGM!

Photo left shows Mrs Patricia Shore, our oldest (102!) visitor on the 23rd making full use of the new entrance ramp.

Also, Kath Shore, and Annabel Brown, daughter of Dr Alan Ford, whom some of you may remember as Swavesey's GP in the 1960s / early 70s and who originally owned Church Green. The current owner is Richard Ford.

The new entrance and ramp was made possible with a significant donation from ENVEA Ltd based in Rose and Crown Road in Swavesey.

An 'official' opening took place on 12th October with Lynsey Newbery and Brad Kendell representing ENVEA, and Doug Hunt (PC Chairman) and committee members Linda Miller, Richard Hart, Rachel Vollerthun and Glyn Jones

Doctors Surgeries

Swavesey Surgery

(01954) 230202
Out of hours 111
Website:- www.swaveseysurgery.nhs.uk
Information & updates on facebook page

Over Surgery

(01954) 231550
Out of hours 111
Website:- www.oversurgery.nhs.uk
Information & updates on facebook page

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SCHOOLS INFORMATION

Scouts
1st Swavesey

The scout group's AGM was held recently. The new chair of the trustees is Janet Stones who was previously one of the cub leaders. Marian Bentley has also decided to step up to be the Group Scout Leader.

Our trustee body is in control of:

- Our funds and fundraising
- Looking after our building and ensuring we have the correct insurance
- Work with the leaders to ensure we are all working to support scouting's aims

The Group Scout Leader's job is to provide support and guidance to all of the leaders in the team. To ensure we are up to date with our training. There are also responsible for liaising with our District. We're all glad Marian has taken on the role which had been vacant so far this year.

By the time you are reading this the cubs will have done their first night hike of the winter. We will have walked from Swavesey to Fen Drayton and had chips at the Three Tuns. Also we are welcoming back Chip Colquhoun a local professional storyteller who will be helping the cubs learn how to create and tell stories.

Meanwhile, the Beavers have been creating Hedgehog Homes. They have also been learning some money skills. The Beavers are now being led by John Pawson because Elzabeth Bush the previous leader has moved elsewhere. We'd like to thank Elizabeth for all of the hard work she did to get Beavers up and running again after the lockdowns of Covid.

The Scouts have been lighting fires, learning about 1st Aid and also learning knife skills.

Although the number of scouts is very good the number of Cubs could be better. There is definitely space in Cubs for another 6 or 7 girls or boys. Scouting is open to all. This is reflected not just in all our groups but also in the mix of leaders. Every section has both female and male leaders. We are always open to children trying out scouting. Our main scouting aim is to help all develop skills for future life.

If your girl or boy would like to try cubs please email Steven below.

Scouts meet on a Wednesday evening at 7pm. Cubs meet on Tuesday at 6.15pm and Beavers at 6pm on Thursday.

Beavers (ages 6-8) john.pawson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk
Cubs (ages 8-10½) steven.wilson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk
Scouts (ages 10½ -14) marian.bentley@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk

Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers

Autumnal Fun

This Autumn Term there are 101 girls spread across the five units, and us leaders have great fun watching them grow and develop and have lots of fun, it is a huge pleasure being a leader in Girlguiding. A new term sees girls who are old enough moving sections with new girls in all the units and they are all settling in well.

The Autumn Term brings us lots of annual events, all units will be represented at the Act of Remembrance at St Andrew's church on Remembrance Sunday, all are taking part in UK Parliament Week and some will be taking part in fundraising for Children in Need and Girlguiding. We are looking forward to joining the annual Over District Panto trip to the Maltings in Ely to see Robin Hood.

1st Swavesey Rainbows enjoyed the make change skills builder badge, leaving cups of kindness on the doorsteps of the sheltered housing bungalows, and tying in the charity aspect with Children in Need. They did lots of UMAs to match the theme too. Outside the programme, they tackled the Ocean, Giraffeology and Xmas Pud challenge badges. "Olive" came to visit to chat to the girls about Guides helping MI5 during WW1 and the girls had a go at some code cracking activities. Fundraising for Children in Need was a sponsored circuits type evening to see how many points the girls could earn as a team. They have three lovely Young Leaders all working towards their YLQ and enjoying taking part in the craft activities too!

1st Swavesey Brownies worked on the Reflect Stage 2 Skills builder and Skills for my Future UMAs. The UMAs link nicely with the activities requested by the girls at the end of last term: slime time, magical mixtures, room in a box. They did two challenge badges: Baking and Incredible Insects. They held a promise evening and ceremony for two new Brownies after half term and ran an interest badge evening. The term will end with a party/disco planned by the Brownies.

2nd Swavesey Brownies have welcomed 4 new girls to the unit, opened up a 4th six and mixed up all the sixer and seconder roles. A trip the Swavesey allotments was moved indoors due to wet weather, but the weather was fine for their chip hike. Anthony Browne MP joined them virtually for a Q&A session with the girls for UK parliament week; to link with the girls taking part in the "I'm a physicist!" challenge badge they had a trip to Cambridge Universities institute of Astronomy. They also did UMAs and a Skills builder badge and wonderful crafts planned according to the girls' interests.

1st Swavesey Guides did Express Myself Skills Builder - Innovate Stage 3. They also did the Top Secret Challenge Badge, to link in with the Remembrance Day Olive. They also had a chip walk as well as taking part in UK Parliament Week. They played a number of unit meeting activity games from the Be Well theme. On the back of the results of the Girls' Attitude Survey and discussions with Guides at camp, their leader introduced more activities into meetings to help Guides learn about ways to manage their anxiety and stress, starting with gratitude. 13 Guides attended a weekend camp at the Jarman Centre.

1st Swavesey Rangers did the Communicate Stage 6 Skills Builder, various UMAs*, a chip shop hike (different from previous years), UK Parliament Week, Top Secret Challenge Badge, with a murder mystery evening and the Winter Quest Challenge. Two Rangers joined Swavesey Guides on the camp.

**UMA = Unit meeting activities. Ed*

Swavesey Rainbows is full with a waiting list, sign your daughters up early for Rainbows, don't wait until she is 5 and her friends have started! www.girlguiding.org.uk/joinus

Adult volunteers are always welcome,
please get in touch if you think you can help or would like to know more.
www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest/

Swavesey Primary School Early Years and Playwork Centre

Wraparound Care and Early Years Provision - Mon to Fri - term-time

Registration Fee £15 per family for using Breakfast and/or After School Club

Breakfast Club 7.30 am - 8.55 am

3+ year olds to Year 6 children: £6 per child per session

After School Club 3.15 pm to 6.00 pm

For Reception to Year 6 children: £12 per child, family rate £11 per child

Early Years 9.00 am to 3.00 pm (full day) or morning (9-12/1) or afternoon (12-3)

For 2½ year olds to 4 year olds

Places for funded children up to 30 hours per week

Charged sessions:-

3+ year olds £15 half-day and £30 full-day.

2 years and 6 months £17 am only

£5 for lunch hour (12-1)

For more information and to register:-

www.swavesey.cambs.sch.uk *(Select EY & P)*

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Music Theory classes for ALL
10.15 am – 11.00 am
Little Rockets for 3-9 yrs
Join the Band & Find your voice!
Swavesey Music School
11:00 am – 12:00 pm
The BIG Rock School for Drummers, vocalists or guitarists with some experience or have been playing for some time aged 10 yrs+
10.15 am – 11:00 am
The BIG Sing!
(aka Choir/Sing up – 7 – 77yrs! ALL AGES)
11am – 12pm
The BIG Orchestra!
An opportunity for children, parents, adults & community in an orchestra together.
Everyone welcome... beginners to experienced players!
Swavesey Music School
admin@swaveseymusic.co.uk
Swavesey Village College CB24 4RS

PARISH & COUNTY NEWS

From Your DC - Sue Ellington

Dear All

The Autumn always brings a great deal of activity at South Cambs District Council. Everybody is back from holidays and they need to set the agenda for the coming winter. You may have noticed that the yellow lines in our villages have been painted and new signs are going up outside the school in readiness for the introduction of Civil parking enforcement. This will be managed by the County Council, who will employ traffic wardens, taking it away from the police and making it a civil offence. I have received several complaints recently regarding anti social parking which will also come within the authority of the traffic wardens.

You will have seen on social media, press and local television that there continues to be controversy about the council's project to introduce a 4 day week where employees are expected to do the same work in 4 days as they are employed to do in 5 days for the same pay. At the council meeting on October 5th many questions were asked to ensure clarity but the leader of the council used a procedural clause in the constitution to prevent District Councillors from being allowed to vote to stop the experiment. We were assured that a independent report would be produced and the whole matter will be debated in the new year. But a recent independent report was changed before it was circulated to members so there was some concern that this might recur.

I know Swavesey residents and groups have done a lot to improve nature so I thought the following might be of interest :

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fund for Nature is now open for applications. This small capital grants scheme offers awards of up to £5,000 for communities who wish to do more for nature where they live. Full details can be found at The deadline for this first round of projects is 1st November, for projects due to start in Spring 2024. There will be a further call for projects next year. Applicants will need to show how their project will directly contribute to 'Doubling Nature' and make reference to objectives contained within Natural Cambridgeshire's 'Local Nature Recovery Toolkit'.

See their website:- naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/Doubling-Nature_Local-nature-recovery-toolkit.pdf

Questions about the fund can be emailed to the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation at info@cambscf.org.uk or directly to Natural Cambridgeshire at Communities@naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk

If you have any council issues I can help with please contact me:-
cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk 01954 202923 or 07774 146331
Best wishes Sue Ellington - South Cambs District Council

SWAVESEY PARISH

Parish Council News September/October 2023

County Council Business - Highways

A site meeting is to be held with National Highways to raise concerns over the roundabouts at the Swavesey A14 junction, relating to speed and HGVs.

The PC and County Cllr continue to ask for a direction sign at the A1307 roundabout, to sign for Northstowe along the A1307, to try to reduce the number of vehicles using Boxworth End-Ramper Rd as a route to Northstowe.

PC reps met with a CCC Traffic Officer to discuss traffic calming measures which are to be funded from the Northstowe S106 monies specifically for this location. The options are under discussion and full consultation with parishioners will be arranged prior to any decision being made.

We have been notified of temporary closure of a section of Market St. & the top end of Cow Fen Drove for surface water gully cleaning. No dates advised but we have also been notified that all the Highway gullies in the village are to be jet cleaned on November 1st.

The yellow parking restriction lines should all be repainted by the end of November.

The 20mph speed limit application wasn't successful in the initial grant funding round but is being entered in the next round for the following financial year.

The introduction of new civil parking enforcement is expected to be introduced in November and we are awaiting details.

We were one of numerous Parishes who wrote in complaining about the lack of weed clearing this year. Following a recent CCC Full Council meeting, the decision and future arrangements are now being reviewed.

District Council Business - Planning

At the recent Parish liaison meeting issues in Burgess Close relating to lack of road and footpath finishing and the uncompleted junction with Boxworth End, were highlighted. CCC are following this up and we continue to monitor the situation. We have been informed that sections of the foul and surface water sewers under Burgess Close need to be replaced and work will take place shortly, once this has been completed then the highway finishing works will be carried out.

Greater Cambridge Partnership

The proposal for the St Ives to Cambridge Greenway Over spur route has been deferred, we believe due to rising costs relating to the bridges which would have to be replaced over the Swavesey Main Drain.

COUNCIL NEWS

The GCP have withdrawn the proposal for the City sustainable travel zone at a cost so far of £4.6 million !!

Village Projects & maintenance

The war memorial in St Andrew's churchyard has been cleaned in advance of the Remembrance Day service & wreath laying on Sunday November 12th.

The grey poplar trees by the pond in Moat Way were felled for safety reasons. The area will now be replanted over the next year or so with trees more suitable for the location along with hedging and other plants and flowers.

By the time you read this minor repairs will have been carried out to the play equipment in the Moat Way central open space play area and a decision made not to replace the small boundary fencing which had to be removed as it was rotting and unsafe.

Ongoing Items & Matters to report

The PC is introducing a weekly bulletin for social media updates, which will go out on Facebook with links to more detailed information on the PC's website. The bi-monthly Meridian PC News will still be available in each issue.

The Council was visited by the South Cambs Integrated Neighbourhood Programme Manager, part of the Integrated Care System/NHS, who explained how the organisation's aim is to link the numerous health & welfare groups to enable a closer working partnership to support people in rural areas. Parish Councils involvement is a major aim in the plans to improve health and wellbeing and access to support services for everyone.

Finance

The PC agreed to provide a grant to help set up the village's new 2nd Brownie Unit.

Car Parking

Inconsiderate and more to the point illegal parking is becoming a major issue in the village. Recently there has been a drastic increase in vehicles parking on yellow lines and blocking peoples' driveways, often to the point where it would have been impossible for an emergency vehicle such as a fire engine to get through. The morning & mid-afternoon school run times have for a long time been a problem but parking issues are now beginning to occur much more frequently with far more vehicles trying to park close to the primary school. This increases the dangers for those trying to cross the road and negotiate junctions.

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE WHEN PARKING YOUR CAR or VEHICLE.

Swavesey Parish Council Website: www.swavesey.org.uk

Parish Councillors	Telephone (01954)	E-mail address
Doug Hunt (Chairman)	232478	dhunt@swavesey.org.uk
Sandie Smith (Vice-Chairman)	07806 709939	ssmith@swavesey.org.uk
James Dodson	230560	jdodson@swavesey.org.uk
Colin Parsons	230861	cparsons@swavesey.org.uk
Martin Johnston	200605	mjohnston@swavesey.org.uk
Warren Wright	203172	wwright@swavesey.org.uk
Jonathan Kerley	231304	jkerley@swavesey.org.uk
Rachel Vollerthun	07312 102526	rvollerthun@swavesey.org.uk
Sue Ellington	202982	sellington@swavesey.org.uk
Sue Rogers	0777 224 7673	srogers@swavesey.org.uk
Mandy Smith	230248	msmith@swavesey.org.uk
Clerk: Linda Miller	202982	clerk@swavesey.org.uk
District Councillor: Sue Ellington	202923	cllr.ellington@scambs.gov.uk
County Councillor: Mandy Smith Papworth & Swavesey Ward	230248	mandy.smith@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Memorial Hall Administrator: Nicole Mullee	07963 861791	memorialhall@swavesey.org.uk

Swavesey Parish Council meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month for Planning items and on the 4th Monday of each month for Full Council.

All meetings are held in the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm. There is always a 10 minute public forum at the start of the meeting.

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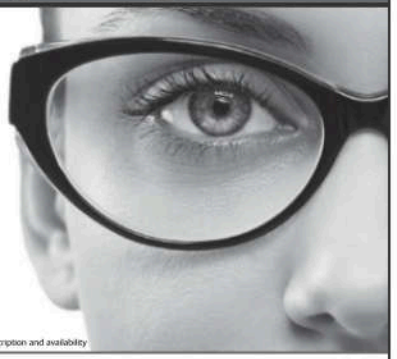

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St Andrew's Church

Services at St Andrew's

You are always welcome to join us at 11am on Sunday mornings. We usually hold a communion service on the first three Sundays in the month and a more relaxed service of Morning Praise on the fourth Sunday. We have a band that plays at this service and would welcome any new musicians if you would like to join us in our worship. If there is a fifth Sunday in the month, you might not find us at St Andrew's as we take this opportunity to praise God with the other churches in our 5Folds benefice. You can find information about our weekly services on Facebook and online at A Church near You:-
www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2834/service-and-events/events-all/

At 8pm on the first Thursday of each month, we have fifteen minutes of silence and prayer remembering the people of Ukraine, followed by Compline (a short-sung service of night prayer). By tradition, people then leave in silence.

Christingle Service: Sunday December 3rd: 4:30pm

Please come and mark the beginning of the Advent season with us at our annual Christingle Service which is organised in support of The Children's Society, *"a national charity working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect."*

Christmas Services

There will be a range of services at St Andrew's over the Christmas Season:

Saturday, December 16th: 7:30pm: Community Choir Carol Concert

Sunday, December 17th: 4:30pm: Carol Service with readings

Sunday, December 24th: 4:30pm: Crib Service

Sunday, December 24th: 11:30pm: Midnight Communion

Christmas Day:

There will not be a service in St Andrew's on Christmas Day but you will be very welcome at any of the other 5Folds churches.

9:30am: St Mary's, Over

9:30am: All Saints, Longstanton

11:00am: St Mary's and All Saints, Willingham

You are always very welcome at any of our services.

Ministry Team:

Rev'd Jenny Hill (Priest and interim Team Leader): jenny@5folds.org.uk

Canon Jan Payne (Licensed Lay Minister): jan.payne@northstowe.church

Colin Smith (Benefice Administrator): 01954 203459 admin@5folds.org.uk

(Colin works Tuesday to Friday 9.30 am to noon)

St Ives Food Bank

Thank you for all your kind food gifts at our Harvest Service in September. If at any time, you would like to make a donation to the St Ives Food Bank, which serves our local area, we have a box in church for your food gifts. The box is emptied regularly and the contents taken to the centre at All Saint Parish Church in St Ives. More information, including particular needs and shortages, can be found at: https://www.stivesparishchurch.org.uk/foodbank/

If you, or anyone you know, need help, and do not know who to contact, use the same link and you will find further information about how to apply. The Food Bank serves everyone in crisis regardless of faith or belief. It is underpinned by the belief that everyone has the right to food, dignity, skills, a chance to work and hope for the future.

Future Events at St Andrew's

Here are a few dates to put in your new diaries.

January/February: Snowdrop Walk (date to be confirmed, look out for information on social media)

Sunday, March 10th: Mothering Sunday Tea Party

Saturday, March 23rd: Easter Fair

Saturday, May18th: Plant Sale

Sunday, December 3rd:
4:30pm: Christingle Service
Come and celebrate the start of Advent with us!
Collection in support of The Childrens' Society

Information

If you have any queries about church services or about our events, please contact the churchwardens:

Jacqui Fuller: 01954 230774: jacqui_fuller@hotmail.com

Bridget Lofts: 07732726228 or 01954 231068: bml20@cam.ac.uk

BETHEL
BAPTIST CHURCH

Club Vintage - Wednesdays 2-4pm

Designed to support older people and those with dementia and their carers. There is a small £3 weekly charge. Enjoy a rotating variety of activities such as chair-based exercise, singing, bible-based crafts, quizzes, games and entertainment from others.

Thursdays 10:30am-12:00pm

Compass Café "Encompasses the community"

You will receive a very warm welcome at our community run cafe. Enjoy reasonably priced coffee, tea and homemade cakes.

LITTLE LIGHTS - Fridays 10am-12pm

Baby & toddler group. All are welcome, bumps, babies, toddlers, parents and carers. Drop in at anytime for as long as you need. Only £2 per family, including drinks & snacks for all! We hope you can come along and join us!

The Hub - Youth Group - Fridays 7-9pm

THE HUB

Open to all year 6 and secondary aged children. Come along and meet up with friends, chat, play games, listen to music and much more! Snack bar also available. Parents must complete a permission form.

Sunday Services - 10:45am

You are warmly invited to join us for our weekly services followed by coffee in our compass room. Our services are open to everyone and are all family friendly with children's groups for all ages! At Bethel we are brought together by our Faith, but what truly makes us family is our passion to serve God and love one another through every season.

Christmas at Bethel

Little Lights Christmas Party
Friday 15th from 10 till 12pm @ Bethel

The Hub Christmas Party
Friday 15th from 7 till 9pm @ Bethel

Swavesey Village Carols
Saturday 16th from 5pm @ Market Street

Carols by Candlelight
Sunday 17th from 7pm @ Bethel

Messy Church
Christmas Crafts for all the family - Date TBC @ Bethel

Christmas Day Family Service
Monday 25th from 10:45am @ Bethel

CONTACT US

Pastor Bob- pastorbob@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Sue Hope (Secretary) - secretary@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk
Marianne Holt (Youthworker) - marianne@bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk

www.bethelbaptistchurch.org.uk *www.facebook.co.uk/SwaveseyBethel*

Community Groups & Charities

Swavesey Sustainability Hub	The Sustainability Hub is a community group that offers space and support for people to realise their ideas for a more sustainable way of life. Contact: rvollerthun@gmail.com Website: www.thesustainabilityhub.biz
Cam Sight	Cam Sight is a local charity which offers support to anyone with a visual impairment, along with their family and carers. We meet on the 4th Wednesday afternoon of each month in Bar Hill. For more information please telephone Joan in Bar Hill on 01954 200622 or Alison at Cam Sight on 01223 420033 or email alison@camsight.org.uk. For more info see:- www.camsight.org.uk
Cambridgeshire Hearing Help	CHH is a charity that helps people with hearing loss. Volunteers service NHS hearing aids and provide batteries and they attend Swavesey quarterly at Thistle Green. Advice on any aspects of hearing loss is available at a hearing help session or by calling the office on 01223 416141, E-mail: enquiries@cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk Website: cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk
Care Network	Care Network supports volunteers, encourages independence and develops good neighbour projects. We provide the Welcome Home from Hospital service across Cambridgeshire. Contact:- Care Network, 5 Broadway House, 149-151 St Neots Rd, Hardwick, Cambridge, CB23 7QJ (tel: 01954 211919). Website: care-network.org.uk/
Compass Cafe	Meets every Thursday morning from 10.30 until 12.00 at Bethel Baptist Church. Contact Sue Ellington on 01954 202923 or sue.ellington@virgin.net
Swavesey Library	A volunteer run community library based in Swavesey Village College. We are able to providing a full range of library facilities being directly linked to the Cambridgeshire County Council library service. For more info see:- www.swavesey.org.uk/community/swavesey-your-library/
The Friends of the Rosie Hospital	The Friends of the Rosie Hospital are helping to make the Rosie a more comfortable environment for mothers and babies. Contact:- Mrs Mary Sanders (Hon Chair) rosieinstitches@ukonline.co.uk Tel 01223 356615
East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH)	Put your free time to good use and volunteer at East Anglia's Children's Hospice (EACH) in Milton. Volunteering at a children's hospice doesn't always mean care work and fundraising as there are also tasks such as admin and maintenance of the grounds. Contact:- Clare Bates on 01223 815134, Email: clare.bates@each.org.uk
OWLS Community Car Scheme	Run by DBS checked volunteers the scheme offers a door-to-door service, for medical or some social journeys, to people who are unable to access other forms of transport. Ring 07505 254363 to book a journey, find out more, or to volunteer as a driver Website: http://www.swavesey.org.uk/village-links/owls-community-care-scheme/

CLUB INFORMATION

Army Cadets UK	Swavesey Detachment, No 2 (Cromwell) Company, Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force meets each Tuesday evening at the Swavesey Village College from 7 pm. New recruits are welcomed from ages 12 years (year 8) to 18 years. Contact - Sgt Phill Barrett phone 07786981380
Swavesey Five-a-Side Football Club	Currently seeking new members for this long-established club. We play each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the new sports hall at Swavesey Village College. Enquiries to Stewart Smith (07803 050234).
Swavesey Girlguiding	<table><tr><th>Unit</th><th>Evening</th><th>Contact</th></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Rainbows</td><td>Thursdays</td><td>caroline@overroad.co.uk</td></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Brownies</td><td>Mondays</td><td>swaveseybrownies@outlook.com</td></tr><tr><td>2nd Swavesey Brownies</td><td>Wednesdays</td><td>secondswaveseybrownies@outlook.com</td></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Guides</td><td>Thursdays</td><td>swaveseyguides@gmail.com</td></tr><tr><td>1st Swavesey Rangers</td><td>Thursdays</td><td>swaveseyrangers@gmail.com</td></tr></table>
Swavesey Spartans	Swavesey Spartans (swaveseyspartans.co.uk) is a Chartered Standard Football Club affiliated to Cambridgeshire Football Association. The club delivers football for children aged 6 and above. The club helps with the transition to open age football. Colts football ceases at the end of a player's Under 18 season. Open age football for men in Swavesey is available through Swavesey Institute FC (separate entry in this section of the Meridian). Swavesey Spartans FC have an open age football team for ladies playing league games on a Sunday. For more information about Spartans please contact Lewis Walsh (swavesey.chairperson@gmail.com) or Neil Jordison (swavesey.secretary@gmail.com or 01954 204390).
1st Swavesey Scout Group	All sections meet at the Scout Hut on the SVC site **Beavers** Day: Thursday 18:00 to 19:15 Contact: Elizabeth Bush - Beaver Leader elizabeth.bush@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk **Cubs** Day: Tuesday 18:15 to 19:30 Contact: Steven Wilson - Cub Leader steven.wilson@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk **Scouts** Day: Wednesday 19:00 to 20:30 Contact : Marian Bentley - Scout Leader Marian.Bentley@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk For any other enquiries please email info@1stswaveseyscoutgroup.org.uk
Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre	Swavesey Early Years and Playwork Centre are based in their own purpose-built unit on the primary school site. It comprises Early Years children (aged from 2 years and 6 Months) between 9am and 3pm (formerly Swavesey Pre School) and we provide activities and care for primary school aged children before and after school. Breakfast Club runs from 7.30 am to 9am and After School Club from 3.15pm to 6pm. For information please contact Carol Panther (Early Years and Playwork Manager) by email: eyandp@swavesey.cambs.sch.uk or by phone 01954 273312 Ext 2 or 07803 812221.
Swavesey Community Choir	If you enjoy singing and having fun then come and join Swavesey Community Choir. We meet every Wednesday in term time in Fen Drayton Village Hall, Cootes Lane, Fen Drayton from 7.45pm - 9.30pm. You don't need to be able to read music and no auditions needed, tenor and bass voices particularly welcome. For further details contact Julie Holmes julieholmes78@gmail.com Website: www.swaveseycommunitychoir.co.uk

Health and Wellbeing Club	A club for older adults which runs on the last Tuesday of the month with the exception of December. The group meets at the Community Centre, Thistle Green, Swavesey from 10.00 to 11.30am. Refreshments, chair-based exercises, speakers and time for conversation. No booking is required and the group is Free.
British Tang Soo Do Institute	British Tang Soo Do Institute practices the Korean martial art of Tang Soo Do. Our club training covers self defence techniques and many aspects of fitness including flexibility, coordination, conditioning, balance and discipline helping to promote a healthy lifestyle. For further information please contact Master Jeff Cockram on 07863 345681 or jeff@btsdi.co.uk Or see our website: www.btsdi.com
Swavesey Tang Soo Do Club	Swavesey Tang Soo Do have classes on a Monday and Wednesday in the primary school main hall. Beginners and junior grades are 6pm-7pm and senior grades 7pm-8:15pm. The contact details are Mr and Mrs Morton 07919 050261 and enquiries@swaveseytsd.co.uk. The website is www.swaveseytsd.co.uk
Allotments in Swavesey	Down Hale Road towards the windmill and on the right there are 61 plots, mostly 150 sq yds (125 m2) in area, backed up by eight water tanks. Large yields of a wide range of high quality vegetable, fruit and flower crops can be grown successfully. If you are interested in joining the waiting list contact Val Sage Tel 01954 230853
British Legion	For information contact:- Secretary - Angela Dye. 01954 277453. email: dyeangela0@gmail.com
Swavesey Badminton Club	Located at the Swavesey Village College Sports Centre.The Club offers a high standard of play at club nights on Tuesdays 7pm to 8pm and on Fridays from 6.30pm to 9.30pm. We play competitive badminton in the Cambridge leagues and run men's, women's and mixed teams.Contact Helen Taylor on 01954 230997 Email: enquiries@swaveseybadminton.net Website: www.swaveseybadminton.net
Swavesey Billiards and Snooker Club	For information/membership please contact Graeme Waites (01954 230113) Email graham.waites566@btinternet.com
Swavesey Camera Club	At Swavesey Camera Club we are proud to cater for photographers of all standards. For more information visit our website at:- www.swaveseycameraclub.co.uk. We meet every Thursday, 7.30 - 9.30pm, Lecture Room, SVC. Non-members welcome - £4 charge (first visit free). For further details please ring Simon Shore 01954 230848
Swavesey Squash Club	Swavesey Squash Club has three international standard squash courts, in our recently refurbished clubhouse, on the Swavesey Village College site. The club has a number of weekly sessions running, suitable for beginners, improvers, and more advanced players. Unlimited use of the facility from £17 a month. A welcoming and active community club with social events and opportunities for competition. Visit our website for more details or contact Ali Loke on 07776 176866/ali@alilokesquash.com. www.swaveseysquash.com
Swavesey & Over Cycling Club	We meet regularly throughout the year, with rides most weekends and also weekdays on spring and summer evenings. As a Cycling UK affiliated club our goal is to explore a joint passion for cycling in a safe, inclusive and social way. We aim to organise events throughout the year from day & weekend rides in the UK and long weekend trips in Europe. Contact: John Craven Email: socccommittee@gmail.com Facebook: https://bit.ly/3GJCksZ_SOCC or Website: https://swaveseyovercc.wixsite.com/socc

Over Netball Club	Local friendly club, everyone welcome, from back-to-netballers to seasoned players. We have teams playing in CDNL and Fenland Netball league. Training is on Tuesdays 7-8:30pm at Northstowe Secondary School. First month is free, £15 per month thereafter. Contact overnetballclub@gmail.com for more information.
Over & Willingham Cricket Club	We have 2 open age (adult) cricket teams in the Cambridgeshire Saturday afternoon league playing 40 over cricket between the start of May and the end of. August. If you are interested in joining our club, please get in touch with one of the club officials, come along to one of our training sessions or approach any club member on our matchdays (Saturday's). Contact Jane Reeson if you are interested. email - reesonhkx46k@aol.com; Telephone 07768 540146; or Facebook - Over and Willingham CC, or Website - overandwillingham.play-cricket.com
Swavesey Music School	Meets every Saturday of term time at Swavesey Village College. For further details see: www.swaveseymusic.co.uk/
Swavesey District Bridleway Association	A liaison group representing local horse riders whose main aim is to protect existing and create safe new horse riding links between all local villages. New members welcome. Regular Newsletter/Social events calendar. Please contact Sue Rogers (01954) 232758
Swavesey & District History Society	Meet every third Tuesday in the month, 7.30pm, Global Resources Centre, SVC. Contact Carolyn Redmayne, Secretary (01954) 230037
Swavesey Institute Football Club	Swavesey Institute FC have 2 teams in the Cambridgeshire County Saturday afternoon leagues. For information about the club or if you are interested in playing open age (adult) football for the village please contact Martin Pickering on 07737391445
Linedance	Linedance classes held on Wednesday mornings at the Bethel Baptist Church 9-30 to 11-30 am. Beginners always welcome. Contact Deborah Walker 01954231382 Email: deborahwalker105@talktalk.net
Swavesey & Over Conservation Society	Meet at Bethel Baptist Church, Middlewatch, Swavesey CB24 4RP. Commencing at 7.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month unless otherwise stated. If you need a lift: Phone: Trevor Grange - 01954 230119 or Pat Miles - 01954 780485. Guests Are Always Welcome!
Swavesey & Over Tennis Club	Club night 1 October to 1 April is on Monday, 7.00 to 9.00pm. From 1 April - 30 September there will be club nights on both Mondays and Wednesdays. We welcome new members from anywhere in the locality. Further information from s.taylor996@btinternet.com https://swaveseyovertennis.wixsite.com/sotc
Swavesey RADSoc	Friendly local drama group staging two or three productions a year.New members always welcome.Contact: Nathalie Balzano: nathaliewoodward@hotmail.com Visit our website at www.swaveseyradsoc.org.uk
Swavesey W.I.	We meet every second Monday of the month at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. New members are always welcome to enjoy a variety of invited speakers and have a chat and cup of tea/ coffee afterwards. For further information contact Margaret Guest tel (01954)202757
Women's Walking	Women's Walking on Mondays and Fridays at 10:00am. Meet on Market Street green. Walk for approximately one hour on pathways in and around Swavesey. A chance to exercise and chat. - Reasonably robust footwear recommended. All welcome. Clare Fox 01954 202882

THE MERIDIAN ADVERTISER

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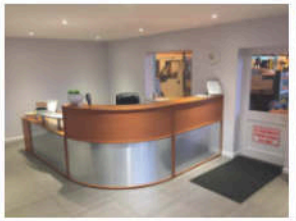

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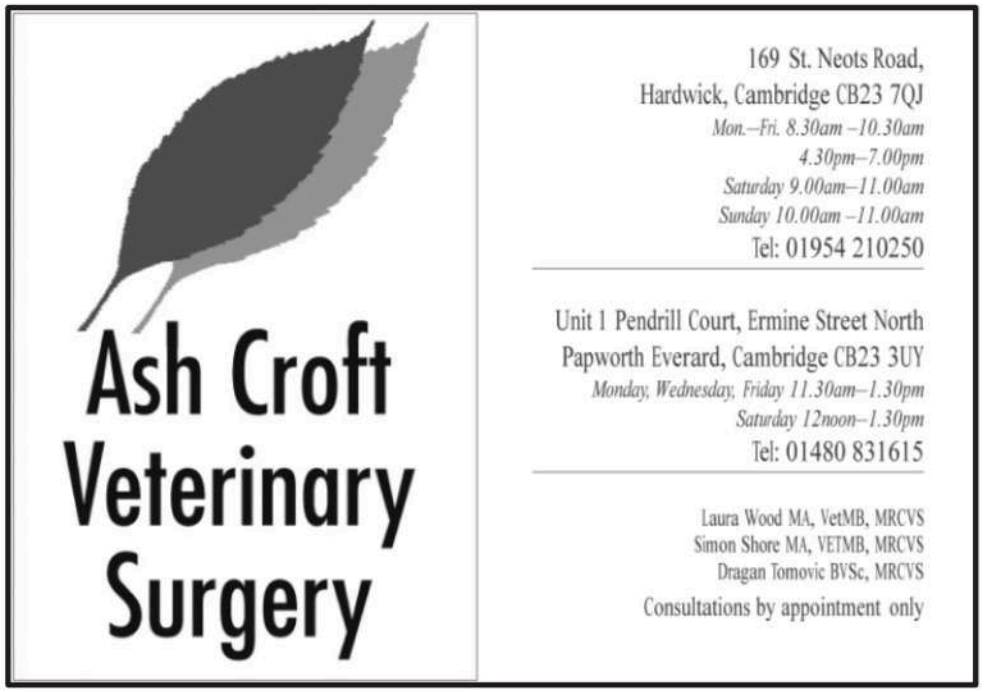
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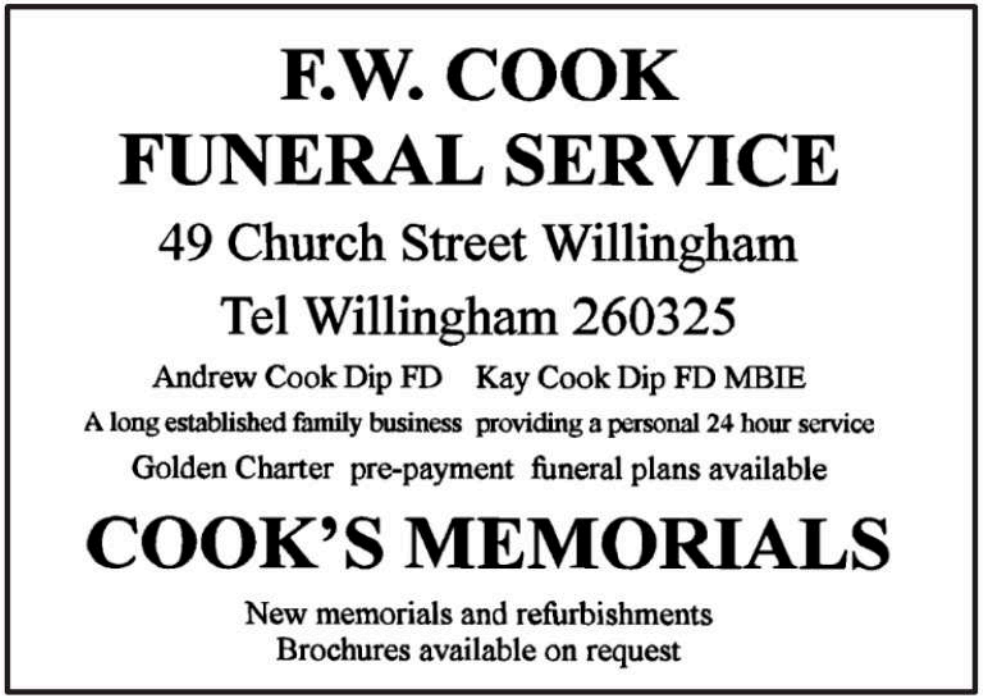
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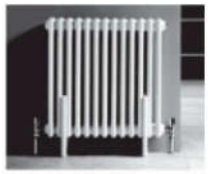

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It is hoped this will avoid major events clashing on the same day. Please send to the Editor, 14 Black Horse Lane, Swavesey.

Event _____

Location _____ Date _____ Time _____

Contact Name _____ Tel No. _____

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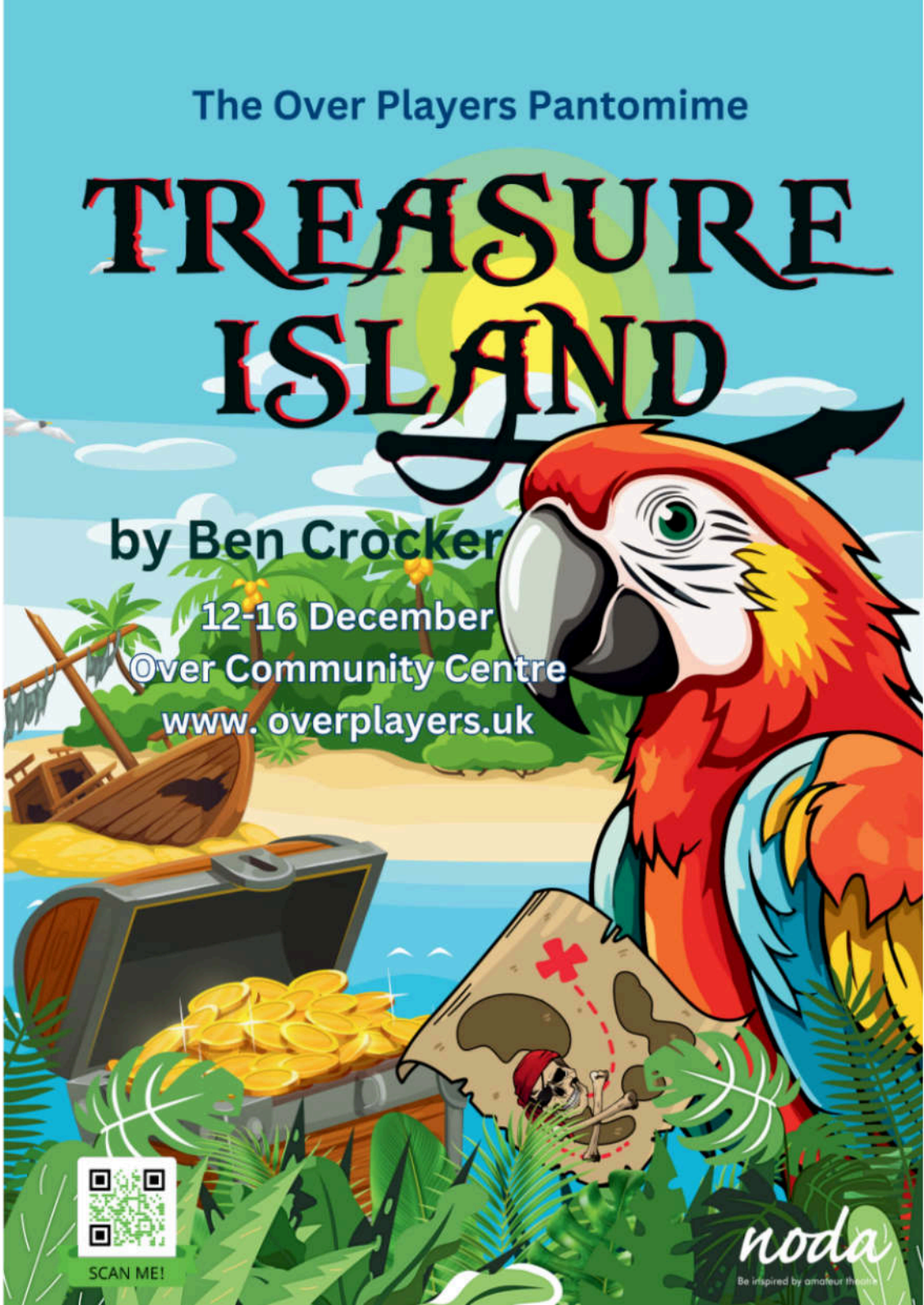

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